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# Security Council

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## Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 5394th meeting of the Security Council, held on 23 March 2006, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation in Burundi", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council has taken note of the Secretary-General's sixth report on the United Nations Operation in Burundi (ONUB), and approves his recommendations.

"The Security Council is deeply concerned by the continuing violence carried out by the Forces nationales de libération (FNL), and the fighting between them and the Burundian army, by the human rights abuses committed by both sides, as well as by factors of instability remaining in the region. It calls for the immediate cessation of hostilities and human rights abuses. It welcomes President Nkurunziza's commitment to bring to justice those responsible for such abuses and encourages the Government of Burundi to work closely with the United Nations human rights monitors to this end.

"The Security Council welcomes the statements recently made by the FNL leader, Agathon Rwasa, in Dar es Salaam, expressing his readiness to negotiate with a view to put a final end to violence. The Council urges both parties to seize this opportunity for negotiations with a view to bringing peace to the whole country.

"The Security Council requests in this context the Secretary-General to keep it regularly informed on developments in the situation, and, in consultation with the Government of Burundi, on ONUB's disengagement plan.

"The Security Council welcomes the progress made by the Government of Burundi since the completion of the Transition, in particular its efforts to reduce poverty.

"The Security Council encourages the Burundian parties to continue on the course of the reforms agreed in Arusha, while maintaining the spirit of dialogue, consensus and inclusion which made possible the success of the transition in their country.

"The Security Council invites the States of the Regional Initiative to continue to work with the Burundian authorities on the consolidation of peace in the country and in the region. It encourages the international community — including the relevant United Nations agencies — to continue to support the Burundian authorities following ONUB's disengagement in the long-term."

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